REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Drawings:

The Examiner has indicated that figures 10 and 14 are incomplete because "the way they have been whole punched rendered figures 10 and 14 incomplete." Applicant wishes to respectfully ask for clarification as to what is considered incomplete in Figures 10 and 14 since Applicant accessed the published application (US2002/0013779A1, published January 31, 2002) at uspto.gov in an effort to determine what is lacking and saw that Figures 10 and 14 are complete as filed. In other words, no hole punch marks are visible in the published Figures 10 and 14 and there is no other information, other than what is already shown in Figures 10 and 14 in the published application, that Applicant can submit for Figures 10 and 14.

For the Examiner's reference, a printout of Figures 10 and 14 as published is submitted herewith as Appendix A (2 pages). The published Figures 10 and 14 are complete as intended by Applicant. No information is missing therein.

Furthermore, the copies of Figures 10 and 14 in Applicant's folder are also devoid of any such hole punch marks (i.e., exactly like the published drawings), and Applicant does not have any correction that Applicant could make. If the Examiner would give more information as to where these hole punch marks are in the copies in the Examiner's possession, Applicant would be happy to address them.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection be withdrawn.

In the event the Examiner still deems that corrected drawings are needed, Applicant submits herewith substitute Figures 10 and 14 as Appendix B (2 pages). There are no hole punch marks on submitted substitute Figures 10 and 14. There is no new information different from what is submitted and what is shown in published Figures 10 and 14, which are included herein as Appendix A.

If the application is considered abandoned due to the drawing issue for any reason, please consider this communication a Petition To Revive An Unintentionally Abandoned Application since the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date of the reply until the filing this petition was unintentional. Any required fees to effect such revival, if needed, is authorized to be charged to the deposit account listed below.

Rejections under 35 USC 102.

The Examiner repeated the rejections of claims 1-7 as stated in the first Office Action dated March 6th, 2003. In response to Applicant's amendment to claim 1, The Examiner further indicates that he does not give "at build time" any patentable weight since build time can basically mean anytime the system is used.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to point out that the ascertainment of the foreign key relationship from the specification of the database is performed at build time, whereby the automatically generating first executable codes as recited in the claim is performed at run time.

In response to the Examiner's assertion that "build time can basically mean "anytime" the system is used," it is respectfully submitted that the concepts of build time and run time as distinct phases in the development and execution of software are well known in the software art. There is a clear distinction as the terms are conventionally used. Build time refers to the phase wherein software is created. Run time refers to the phase wherein the software is executed. A quick search for the term "build time" in a search engine such as google.com gives hundreds of examples to illustrate this conventional and well-known concept. Likewise, a search for the term "run time" in google.com yields hundreds of examples to illustrate this conventional and well-known concept as well.

Applicant also wishes to point out that there is ample support in the specification for this claimed distinction between build time and run time, which may be found at, for example, page 29 line 33 (build time), page 32, line 1 (build time), page 29, line 27 (build time, page 29, line 34 (run time), and page 32, line 27 (run time).

This ascertainment by the computer-implemented method at build time is a key to be able to automatically generate at run time executable codes that obtains, for a first given record in the first table, the number of records in the second table that references the first given record in the manner claimed by amended claim 1.

With respect to the other arguments made by the Examiner, Applicant respectfully maintains that populating tables using code with foreign key is different from the automatic generation of executable codes that obtains, for a first given record in the first table, the number of records in the second table that references the first given record in the manner claimed by amended claim 1.

With respect to the assertion that by generating a query, the system provides an answer set containing the desired records from both tables, and the conclusion by the Examiner that this

Appl. No. 09/764,321
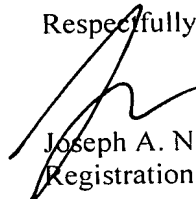Preliminary Amendment dated May 19, 2004.

feature anticipates the claimed feature of "when said first given record is displayed in a view, also displaying said first number of records in said second table that references said first given record," Applicant respectfully disagrees given the context of amended claim 1. Using SQL to generate data from tables of a relational database is known. The invention of amended claim 1 avoids the necessity of having to build custom SQL codes, whether by brute force or using a form created in advance by someone else (see column 13, lines 12-16 of Weissman), to dereference foreign keys of a table. This is the feature that Weissman fails to teach or suggest, in the context of amended claim 1.

Other Claims:

Claims 7-15 are added in this preliminary amendment.

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is novel, nonobvious, and patentable over the cited art. Furthermore, claims 2-10, being dependent on claim 1, should also be deemed novel, nonobvious, and patentable over the cited art. Claims 11-15 are also patentable. Thus, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Applicant hereby petitions for a 3-month extension of time to respond and file the RCE application and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees or credit any over-payments that may apply to our Deposit Account No. 50-2284 (Order No. AMPSP004).

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph A. Nguyen
Registration No. 37,899

CUSTOMER NO. 32,986
IPSG, P.C.
P.O. Box 700640
San Jose, CA 95170-0640
Tel: 408-257-5500